
City of Maple Valley Police Department

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003 Fourth Annual Report on Police Performance



Created for the City of Maple Valley by:

The King County Sheriff's Office
Research, Planning & Information Services Unit
516 Third Avenue, KCC-SO-0100
Seattle, WA 98104

Accessible formats are available upon request.

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Letter from Chief Dana Malone



July, 2004

Dear Citizens of Maple Valley:

2003 was a year of change for our City, especially in your Police Department. Due to my yearlong military deployment to Europe, Captain Greg Dymerski and then Captain Carl Cole served as your acting police chiefs until my return last November. I want to thank these two excellent leaders from the Sheriff's Office for their service to our community. I also want to thank the citizens, City Council, and City staff for their support during my deployment.

As your Chief of Police, I am pleased to present the Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report for the year 2003! This report represents a snapshot of the hard work of Maple Valley's officers and citizens, working in partnership to make our community a safe and beautiful place in which to live, learn, work and recreate. As your police department, we strive to provide excellent police services to the citizens and visitors of our City.

Personnel

The Department now has nine patrol officers, one School Resource Officer, one Police Chief, and detective services and administrative support through the King County Sheriff's Office. We also benefit by receiving additional Sheriff's Office support such as air support from Guardian One (the Sheriff's Office helicopter), drug enforcement, marine unit, 911 communication services and major crimes investigative support.

Traffic Safety

Traffic safety continues to be a major concern for the citizens of Maple Valley. The City maintains a Radar Reader Board Trailer. The trailer is deployed in areas identified through analysis of submitted traffic complaints or as a response to citizen requests. The trailer displays the legal speed limit and the speed of approaching vehicles so that drivers can be made aware of their own speed. The trailer has become a symbol of how our City is taking responsibility for its safety. Each officer is equipped with traffic radar for speed enforcement.

Crime Prevention

Your Police Department is very interested in building interest and support in Block Watch programs in our City. If you are presently involved in a Block Watch program, I want to thank you for your participation and your work in joining with your neighbors to fight crime. If you would like assistance in getting your neighborhood involved in Block Watch, I encourage you to call us for assistance.

Problem Solving

I ask you to pay special attention to the section in this report on Problem Solving Projects. Your Police Department is dedicated to Community-Oriented Policing (COP) and one of the key components of COP is Problem Solving. We have adopted structured Problem Solving Techniques as our normal way of addressing crime and safety issues in the City. We are using Crime Analysis information available to us through technology to concentrate our efforts where they are needed the most.

Responsiveness

Your Police are dedicated to being responsive to citizens' needs and requests. If you have any questions about this report or our services, please visit me at City Hall, phone me at (425) 413-5158, or e-mail me at dana.malone@ci.maple-valley.wa.us. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Chief Dana Malone
Maple Valley Police Department

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Executive Summary

Mission

The mission of the Maple Valley Police Department is to:

Provide quality, professional law enforcement services to improve public safety.

Goals & Objectives

In order to realize their mission, the Maple Valley Police Department has adopted the following goals and objectives:

Goal: Reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Objective: Use information for crime analysis.
Objective: Apprehend offenders.
Objective: Prevent crime.
Objective: Improve citizens' feeling of security.

Goal: Provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services to the City of Maple Valley, WA.

Objective: Provide responsive services to citizens.
Objective: Provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The following report contains information on the service efforts and accomplishments of the Maple Valley Police Department to support its Mission, Goals and Objectives.

Report Highlights

As stated in Chief Malone's letter (page 2), the highlights of the year 2003 were:

- Personnel (page 2)
- Traffic Safety (pages 2, 10-11)
- Crime Prevention (pages 2 & 13)
- Problem Solving Projects (pages 2 & 14)

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Goal: Reduce Crime and the Fear of Crime

The goal to reduce crime and the fear of crime is a standard goal of law enforcement agencies worldwide. Efforts to support this goal vary with variations in laws, limitations and liabilities of law enforcement agencies, community preferences, socio-economic factors and available resources.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for Maple Valley's police department to support this goal are:

- use information for crime analysis,
- apprehend offenders,
- prevent crime, and
- improve citizens' feeling of security.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of Maple Valley's police department as reflected in the amount of crime (crime rates and statistics), crime incident case clearance rates, adult and juvenile arrest and charge statistics, workload of crime prevention efforts and citizen communications activities.

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Objective: Use Information for Crime Analysis

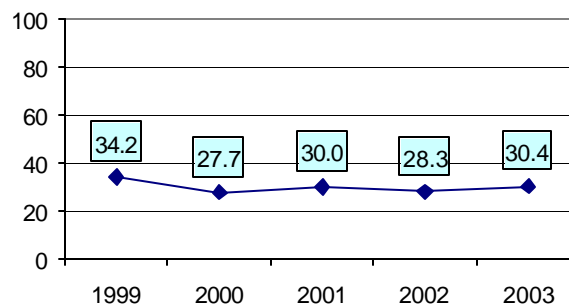
The "Crime Rate"

Total Part I Crimes

"Part I Crimes" is a category of crimes established by the U. S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that consists of murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson. Part I Crimes compared to the population are known as the "Crime Index" or "Crime Rate." (The Crime Rate is known as the Modified Crime Rate when Arson data is included.)

Part I Crimes Per 1,000 Residents

Commonly known as the "Modified Crime Rate"



"Part II Crimes" consist of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws.

National Modified Crime Rate

The FBI calculates and publishes the national crime rate based on the information sent to them by participating agencies. This information is usually released in the fourth quarter of the following year. Therefore, the most recent data available as of this report is the crime rate for 2002 (published in October, 2003).

U. S. National Modified Crime Rate (2002)

41.4

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Crimes Against Persons

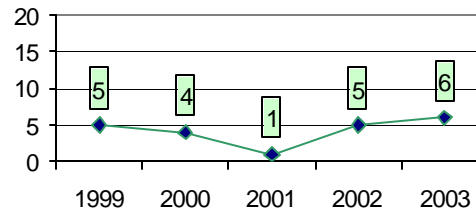
Part I Crimes Against Persons

Part I Crimes include crimes categorized as “violent crimes” or “crimes against persons.” The following are Maple Valley’s Part I Crimes Against Persons for the past five years.

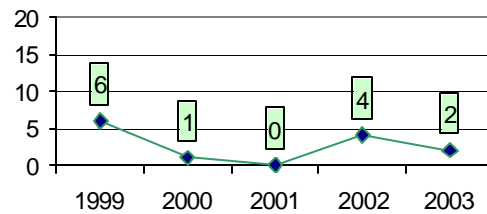
Murder



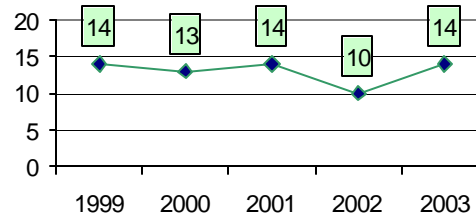
Rape



Robbery



Aggravated Assault



City of Maple Valley Police

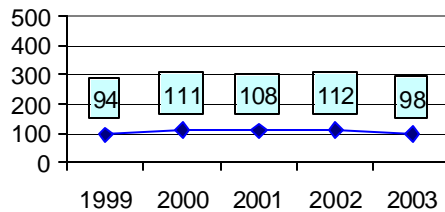
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Crimes Against Property

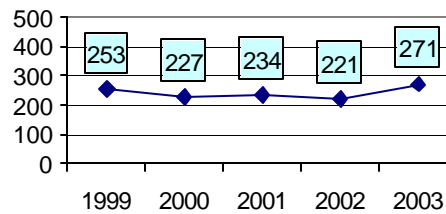
Part I Crimes Against Property

The second group of crimes that make up the Part I Crimes are known as “non-violent crimes” or “crimes against property” or “property crimes.” The following are the Maple Valley’s Part I Crimes Against Property for the past five years.

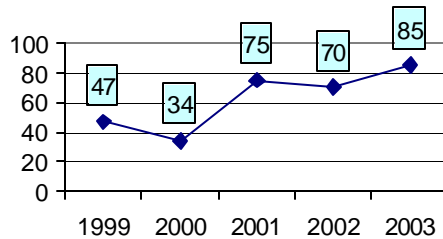
Burglary



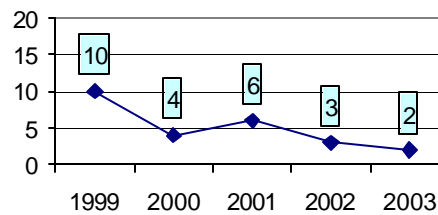
Larceny



Vehicle Theft



Arson



City of Maple Valley Police

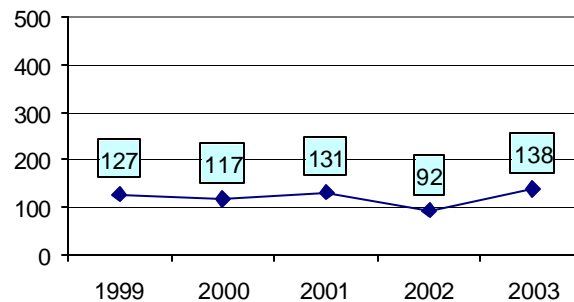
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Domestic Violence Crimes

In Washington State "Domestic Violence Crime" refers to any crime which is committed by a spouse, former spouse, person related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and/or persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

"Domestic Violence Incidents" includes all documented police activity related to domestic violence incidents which includes all case reports and citations as well as possibly containing other related activity such as Field Interview Reports (FIR) and assistance to other agencies.

Total Domestic Violence Incidents



The most frequently occurring types of domestic violence crimes in Maple Valley in 2003 were:

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Reported Incidents</u>
Assault Fourth Degree	44
Total Family/Juvenile Disturbances	13
Violation of Court Orders, Misdemeanor	11
Vandalism	4
Assault, Hands	4
Violation of Court Orders, Felony	3
Other/Miscellaneous	13

NOTE: There were no domestic violence related homicides in Maple Valley in 2003.

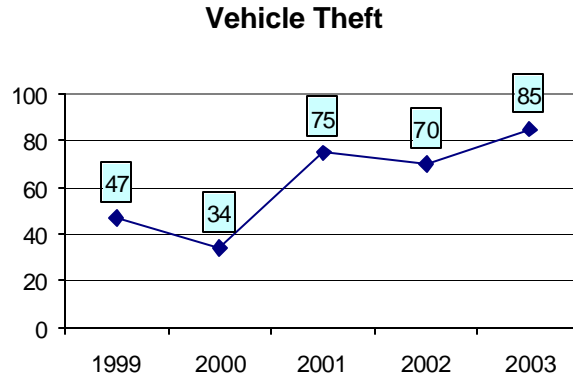
City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Automobile/Vehicle Related Crimes

Vehicle Thefts

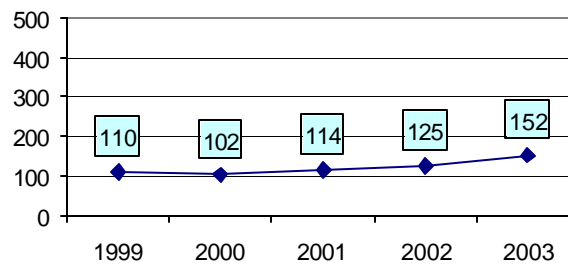
Vehicle Thefts includes thefts of all vehicles including trucks, buses, boats, recreational vehicles and other non-licensed off-road vehicles.



Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts

Thefts From Vehicles and Attempted Thefts includes thefts of property **from** a vehicle including: any part or accessory item attached to the vehicle (gasoline, tires, tape decks, antennas, etc.), and personal property left in a vehicle (purses, gifts, tools), as well as vehicle prowls (no property successfully taken).

Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts ("Prowls")



City of Maple Valley Police

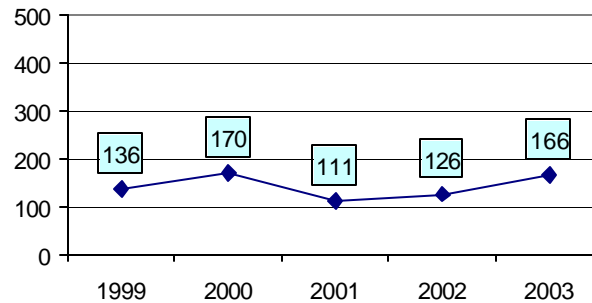
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Traffic Incident Information

Traffic Report Data

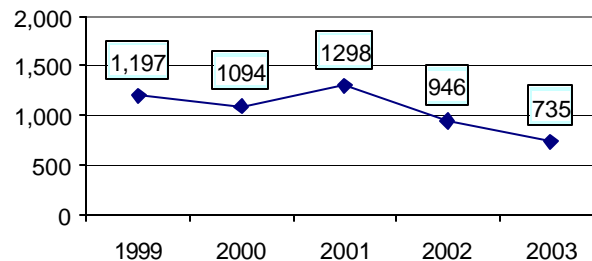
Collision information includes reports for all injury, non-injury and fatality vehicle collisions (including hit and run incidents) taken by the City of Maple Valley Police Department.

Collisions



Citation and Notice of Infraction information includes reports of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) violations, Moving/Hazardous violations (such as all accidents, speeding and reckless driving), and Non-moving Compliance violations (such as defective equipment and parking violations).

Traffic Citations and Notices of Infraction(s)



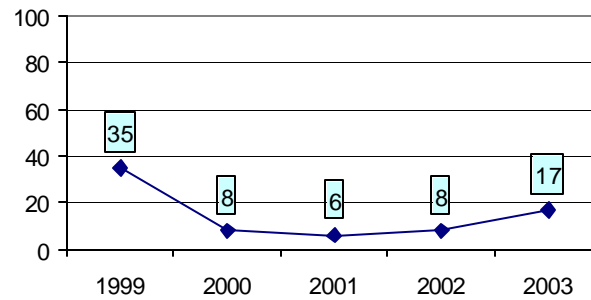
City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Traffic Report Data, continued

Citizen Traffic Complaints includes all reports citizens make regarding chronic traffic violations and requests for traffic enforcement. These complaints are then distributed to Maple Valley's police officers to provide follow-up enforcement and/or a response (see Problem Solving Projects on page 14).

Citizen Traffic Complaints



City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

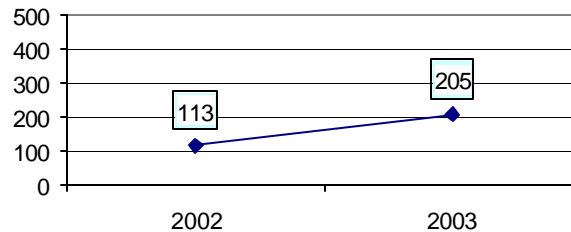
Objective: Apprehend Offenders

Cases Closed "Cleared by Arrest"

The closed cases below are cases known as "cleared by arrest." Although not every case suspect is "arrested," each suspect in these cases has been recommended for criminal charges that may eventually result in an arrest or another form of punitive action (such as a citation). Cases "cleared by arrest" are sent to the King County Prosecutor's office - with the officer or detective's recommendation to file criminal charges. A prosecuting attorney is solely responsible for the decision to formally file charges and prosecute defendants.

Part I & II Cases Closed 'Cleared By Arrest'

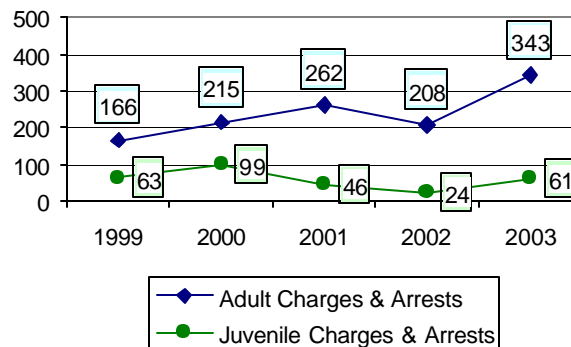
Comparable data unavailable prior to 2002



Charges and Arrests

Of all the cases "cleared by arrest" (see above), the following are the charges & arrests by adult/juvenile status. (Note: Numbers will differ from the number of cases "cleared by arrest" due to differences in reporting standards.)

Adult & Juvenile Charges & Arrests



City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Objective: Prevent Crime

Crime Prevention Efforts

Block Watch

Master Police Officer A. Kelley was your Block Watch coordinator in 2003. Officer Kelley also works as our Crime Prevention Officer. Maple Valley now has 19 Block Watch groups helping to reduce crime and the fear of crime in the following neighborhoods:

Belmont Woods	Lake Forest Estates
Cedar Downs	Lake Wilderness Country Club
Cherokee Bay	Patrick's Faire
Diamond Hills	Rosewood Park
Eastwood Forest	Valley Green
Elk Run & Elk Run II	Valley Green II
Fernwood Estates	Valley Meadows
Highlands At Lake Wilderness	Water Gardens
Katesridge	Wilderness Summit

We participated in Block Watch's "National Night Out" in August. For this annual event, Block Watch groups get together with neighbors to meet and develop partnerships that will help prevent crime.

School Resource Officer (SRO)

Maple Valley continued its very successful partnership with the Tahoma School District and the King County Sheriff's Office to provide a full-time School Resource Officer in the Tahoma School District. Officer J. Johnson conducted classes, interventions, and completed investigations aimed at making the Tahoma School District a safe place for your children to learn.

Use of Crime Analysis

The Maple Valley Police use data gathered by the KCSO Centralized Crime Analysis Unit to make decisions on how to best patrol and deter crime. Officers are provided maps of the city on a monthly basis that show graphic displays of crime patterns. Auto theft, burglary, larceny and vandalism crimes are plotted on crime analysis maps, which allow officers the ability to know where and when problems are occurring. Maple valley officers also have laptop computers that are used for reporting and statistical analysis of reporting data. Officers can search for crime patterns and respond to potential areas of concern as they develop. Our officers' laptop computers contain police reporting data for the entire Sheriff's Office and crime bulletins from King County and neighboring and Federal agencies. The laptop computer program gives our officers the very best crime information tools to help them do their jobs.

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Problem Solving Projects/Programs

Party Patrol

Maple Valley Police provided officer support for the annual "Party Patrols" that took place in the greater Maple Valley area, along with other jurisdictions and the State Liquor Control Board. This selective enforcement initiative was designed to impact the sale and use of alcohol to persons under the age of 21. The patrols were scheduled to coincide with local high school graduations and served to reduce the incidence of crime and injury related to juvenile drinking. Additionally, detectives from the Southeast Precinct of the King County Sheriff's Office made alcohol law compliance checks of local establishments that sell liquor. During these compliance checks, two violations of Furnishing Liquor to Minors were uncovered in Maple Valley. Two juvenile drinking parties were interdicted within the City. Forty-four party calls were handled in the surrounding area by this joint task force that was conducted over three weekends following the start of the summer school recess.

Cherokee Bay Patrols

Our Department has worked with the homeowners of the Cherokee Bay neighborhood to improve the residents' feelings of security. One of the home owners' and the officers' frustrations has been the past inability to enforce speeding laws on the private roadways within that neighborhood. The legislature has enacted a law that allows local law enforcement to enforce speed regulations on private roadways within a homeowners' association. The Maple Valley City Council has authorized the Chief of Police to enforce speed regulations on those private roadways in accordance with state law.

Taser Program

A new "less-lethal" tool for controlling violent or potentially violent subjects was implemented on our City police force this year. Our City Council purchased Tasers for each officer on the Department. The King County Sheriff's Office Advanced Training Unit provided training and certification for use of the Tasers. A Taser is a hand-held, pistol-shaped device that delivers a 50,000-volt charge of electricity into resisting or aggressive subjects, temporarily incapacitating them. The Taser's effects are extremely short term (most people recover within just a few minutes). In most cases this allows officers enough time to gain the advantage over a subject without having to use more destructive force.

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Objective: Improve Citizens' Feeling of Security

Public Communication and Education Efforts

Police Volunteer Program

In 2003, Maple Valley Police volunteers donated over 200 hours of their time to coordinate and continue implementation of the Court "Call-back" program, the institution of the Business Watch program, and to staff city booths at local festivals and events. Our volunteers were also instrumental in enforcing the City's false alarm ordinance, which is designed to reduce officers' responses to home and business burglar alarms caused by operator error or equipment failures. This program allows officers to concentrate less time on false alarms and more time on emergencies and crime-related issues.

City Newsletter Articles

In 2003, the Maple Valley Police Department submitted articles to Maple Valley's quarterly newsletter. The topics of the articles included mail and identity theft prevention, home and vehicle crime prevention and the National Night Out Against Crime.

National Night Out

Maple Valley Officers, in conjunction with Southeast Precinct Command Staff and the Maple Valley Fire and Life Safety (Fire Department) made visits to several National Night Out Block Parties in August. The "Night Out" program is a national effort to get neighbors out to meet each other and to meet their local police. When neighbors know each other it is much harder for thieves to take advantage of a neighborhood.

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Goal: Provide High-quality, Cost-effective, and Accountable Services to the City of Maple Valley, WA

The goal "to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services" is a goal any service industry might strive for. It reflects a concern for the appropriate and effective use of community resources. Efforts to support this goal are made in partnership with elected officials and police administrators, taking into consideration problem areas, community concerns for quality of life and resources available.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for Maple Valley's police department in support of this goal are:

- provide responsive services to citizens, and
- provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of Maple Valley's police department using traditional responsiveness measures (such as response times and complaints). Additionally, cost information is shown in ratios of cost by the population, by available revenue, by staffing and by volume of work.

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Objective: Provide Responsive Services to Citizens

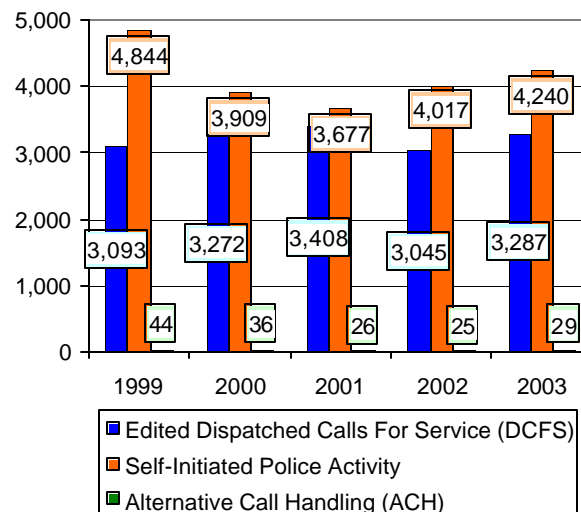
Response to Calls

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) Reports

Police engage in a variety of activities in a workday. Primarily police activity is captured in the number of "calls" responded to during a day. A "call" may be an incident called in by a citizen to the 9-1-1 center or a call may be "self initiated" by the officer responding to a crime they've witnessed or to chronic problems in a neighborhood (see Problem Solving Projects on page 14). In addition to the calls responded to by officers, the Alternative Call Handling (ACH) program allows 9-1-1 center operators to take certain police reports over the phone in order to allow police officers more time to respond to citizens who need an officer present at the location of their incident.

Below are the numbers of Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) incidents reported for the past five years.

Police Calls



City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Response Times to High Priority Calls

Response Times to High Priority Calls

Call Priorities and Response Times

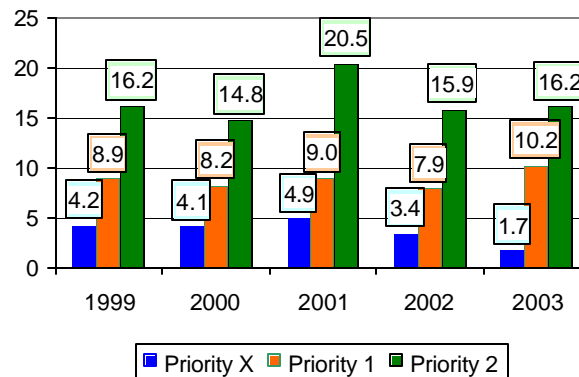
When calls for police assistance are received by the Communications (9-1-1) Center, they are entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and given a "priority" based on the criteria described below. If the call receiver is in doubt as to the appropriate priority, the call is assigned the higher of the two priority designators in question.

"Priority X" designates critical dispatches, those incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. It is used for felony crimes in-progress where the possibility of confrontation between a victim and suspect exists. Examples include: shootings, stabbings, robberies or burglaries.

"Priority 1" designates immediate dispatches; those calls that require immediate police action. Examples include: silent alarms, injury traffic accidents, in-progress crimes or crimes so recent that the suspect may still be in the immediate area.

"Priority 2" designates prompt dispatches; those calls that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples include: verbal disturbances and blocking traffic accidents.

Average Response Times* to High Priority Calls in Minutes



* The 9-1-1 Center for the City of Maple Valley Police measures response times from the time a citizen's phone call is received to the time an officer arrives at the location of the incident.

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

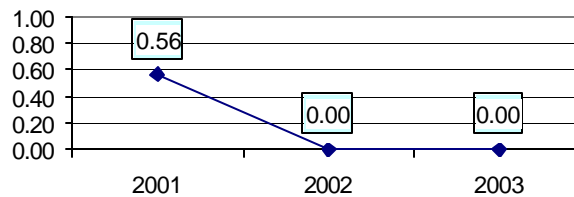
Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

Although citizens may have made formal complaints against officers prior to the year 2000, complaints were not tallied for reporting purposes prior to 2000. Complaint counts prior to 2000 and Self-initiated Police Activity counts prior to 1999 were not available for this report.

Complaints per 1,000 Police Contacts

Comparable data unavailable prior to 2001*



	2001	2002	2003
Number of Complaints	4	0	0
Number of Police Contacts (Edited DCFS & Self-initiated Police Contacts)	7,398	7,062	7,527

City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Objective: Provide Cost-effective Services to Citizens

Costs of Services

The City of Maple Valley contracts with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) for police services. Among other benefits, contracting for services from a larger law enforcement agency allows for cost savings through "economies of scale." Specific economies of scale provided through the contract with KCSO include:

- Existing Mutual Aid Agreements with other law enforcement agencies in Washington State,
- A large pool of officers if back-up help is necessary,
- Coverage if your officers are away,
- Expertise of specialized units to assist officers,
- More experienced officers to select from for staffing, and
- Costs shared throughout the department keeping city costs down.

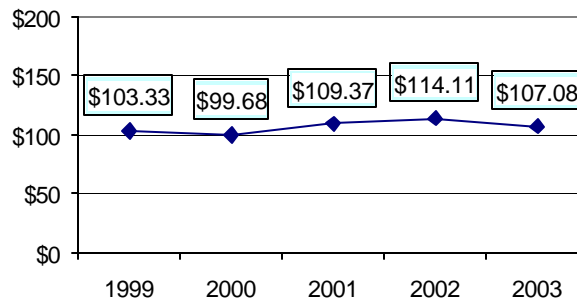
Costs for police services vary depending on a city's resources and the level and type of police services the community wants. The dollar amounts and staffing levels shown below are taken from the contracts for police services (billed financial exhibits) for the years indicated. The City of Maple Valley may have had additional funds or expenditures for special projects or programs as part of the city's law enforcement budget that are **not** reflected in this report.

The following are four ways of putting the cost-to-services picture together for the City of Maple Valley. (NOTE: Dollar amounts shown have **not** been adjusted for inflation.)

Cost per Capita

Cost Per Capita shows the contract cost for police services divided by Maple Valley's population (for example: year 2003 contract cost (\$1,684,376) divided by year 2003 population (15,730) = \$107.08).

Cost Per Capita



City of Maple Valley Police

Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

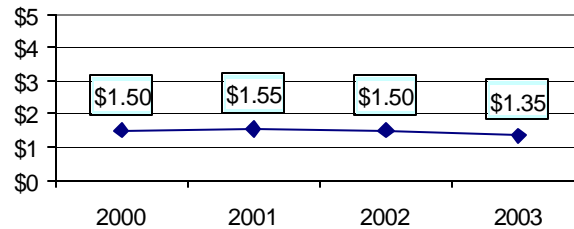
Costs of Services, continued

Cost per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value shows Maple Valley's contract cost in relationship to the property values (a.k.a. primary revenue source) of Maple Valley.

Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

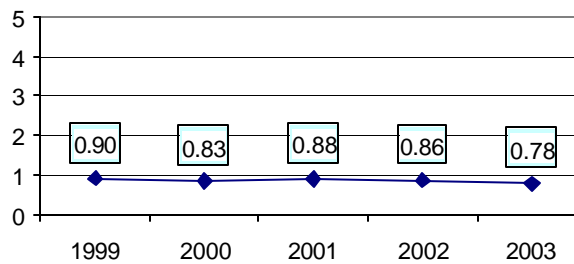
Data unavailable prior to 2000



Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Residents

Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents shows how many commissioned police officers are employed by Maple Valley for every 1,000 residents. This number includes commissioned officers who work in supervisory or other non-patrol related positions as well as any special services officers who work part-time for the city, but does not include professional (i.e. non-police) support staff.

Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents



City of Maple Valley Police

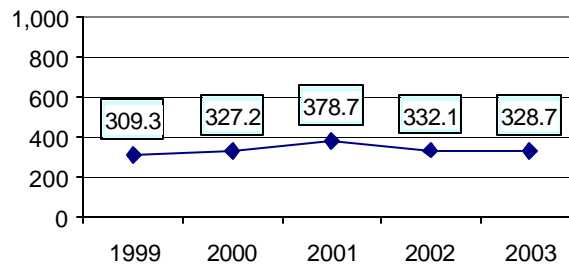
Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2003

Costs of Services, continued

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) per Patrol Officer

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) Per Patrol Officer gives a picture of the average number of dispatched calls one patrol officer responds to within a year. This number only uses dispatched calls Maple Valley pays for and does not include the number of responses an officer initiates (such as witnessing and responding to traffic violations). Also, the numbers below are **patrol only** and exclude non-patrol commissioned officers (such as supervisors or special duty officers/detectives).

**Edited Dispatched Calls for Service
(DCFS) Per Patrol Officer**



Glossary

Adult Arrests: An arrest is counted every time an adult is cited for a criminal offense or is booked. More specifically:

1. It includes all adult bookings, plus
2. All adult citations that are classified as criminal non-traffic.
3. When an adult is both cited and booked, it is counted only once.

CAD: See "Computer Aided Dispatch" below.

Cases Cleared/Clearance: This refers to the solving of an offense by arrest or, in some circumstances, by exceptional means (e.g., the suspect died, is imprisoned on another charge, victim refuses to testify, etc.).

Cleared by Arrest: This is a case that is closed by identifying at least one suspect and charges against that suspect(s) are recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. Although called "cleared by *arrest*" this closure does not require physical booking into a jail or juvenile detention facility. It also does not require the charging of all suspects if/when there are multiple suspects involved in a crime. This category includes criminal citations into district and municipal courts for misdemeanors, felony filings into Superior Court, and all filings into Juvenile Court.

Other clearance codes:

1. "Cleared Exceptional" refers to a case in which a crime and a suspect involved in the crime have both been confirmed but, due to circumstances outside the control of law enforcement, charges are not being recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. (One example of this is when the suspect is already being charged for the crime by another police jurisdiction.)
2. "Cleared Unfounded" refers to a case in which it is discovered that the reported incident was either not true or was not a crime.
3. "Cleared Administrative" refers to an incident found to be non-criminal in nature, but which requires some police action to close the incident (e.g., handling of lost and found property).
4. "Cleared Inactive" refers to cases in which all investigative leads have been exhausted (or none existed) and the case cannot be closed by any other clearance classifications.

Citation: Often called a "ticket," a citation is a written document issued to a citizen who commits a crime or violates a law. The citation describes the crime and/or the law that has been violated and identifies the punishment that has been standardized by the court system (i.e., the standardized monetary amounts payable for traffic violations). While citations prescribe a penalty for a crime, they may be challenged through the court system. They usually include instructions for the cited citizen to appeal the citation.

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD): A computerized communication system used by emergency response agencies for dispatching and tracking calls for emergency assistance.

Domestic Violence: Domestic violence is a subcategory of other crimes. Virtually any crime can be sub-classified as domestic violence. In the State of Washington, domestic violence is defined as a crime of violence against the person or property of a spouse, former spouse, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or

legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS): Dispatched calls for service are calls received in the Communications Center and to which one or more patrol cars are dispatched. For information about "Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS)" see the Data Sources section of this report.

Felony: Felony crimes are more serious in terms of either harm or loss to persons or property than misdemeanors, and usually are punished by more restrictive methods than citations. Felonies have subclasses (A, B and C) that are based on the extent of harm to a person or the dollar value of loss or damage to property.

Identifier Codes for Priority of Dispatched Police Calls: The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems used by 9-1-1 Centers use a system of codes to identify the types of calls to which police are being dispatched. Along with categorizing the type of incident the codes also assign the call a priority level based on the urgency required for the police response. The following are the priority levels used by the Communications (9-1-1) Center for the various types of police calls:

- Priority 0 (9-1-1 Dispatch): This code is used when a dispatcher sends a police unit to an incident based on the location, name and phone number information automatically generated by the 9-1-1 CAD system based on the origin of the call. This may be necessary when a caller is unable (for whatever reasons) to give the information or gives minimal information before the call is somehow terminated. Open phone lines and disconnected lines to which a call-receiver is unable to re-contact the caller are also examples of Priority 0 calls.
- Priority X (Critical Dispatch): This code is used for incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. Examples are felony crimes in progress, "help the officer" situations, shootings, stabbings, in-progress robberies and in-progress burglaries where the possibility of a confrontation between a victim and a suspect exists.
- Priority 1 (Immediate Dispatch): This code is used for incidents requiring immediate police action. Examples are silent alarms at banks or businesses, silent residential alarms, injury accidents, major disturbances with weapons involved, in-progress burglaries of unoccupied structures, and other types of crimes in-progress (or which have just occurred) where a suspect may still be in the immediate area.
- Priority 2 (Prompt Dispatch): This code is used for events that involve situations that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples are verbal disturbances, audible residential or audible commercial alarms and blocking accidents, and incidents of shoplifters in custody who are not causing a problem.
- Priority 3 (Routine Dispatch): This code is used for low priority incidents in which time is not the critical factor in the proper handling of the call. Examples are burglaries or larcenies that are not in progress, "cold" vehicle thefts and abandoned vehicle calls.
- Priority 4 (Dispatch as available): This code is used for special circumstances or "seasonal" calls. Examples are reports of snowball throwing during winter months or firecracker complaints around July 4th.

Misdemeanor: Crimes that inflict harm or loss but to a lesser extent than a felony (e.g., assault fourth degree or simple assault). Misdemeanors usually are punished through monetary payment via a citation and/or other restrictions (such as restraining orders or no trespass orders).

Part I Crimes: This is a category of crimes established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It includes criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter; but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide, and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part I Crimes Against Persons: These crimes are also referred to as "violent crimes." They consist of criminal homicide (as defined above), forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Part I Crimes Against Property: These are burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part II Crimes: This is a category of crimes consisting of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws, but typically include one or more of the following crimes: all other assaults (simple), forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property (buying, receiving and/or possessing), vandalism, weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.), prostitution and commercialized vice, sex offenses (including statutory rape, indecent exposure, etc. but excluding forcible rape, prostitution and commercialized vice), drug violations, gambling, offenses against families and children, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, liquor violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and others.

Data Sources

The data compiled in this report was collected from the following sources and, as such, is subject to the data standards and limitations of the source agency:

- City of Maple Valley Police (information regarding: crime prevention activities, problem solving projects and public communication and education efforts)
- Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS) are the incidents that originate with a phone call to the 9-1-1 Center requesting a police response (either emergency or non-emergency). The totals shown in this report are limited to the DCFS calls that the city is charged for as part of their contract. Actual DCFS counts may be slightly (usually less than 5%) higher. This data is reported via the King County Sheriff's Office Communications Center Section, Research, Planning and Information Services Unit and Contracting Unit.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) annual statistical report *Crime in the United States: 2002*
- Washington State Office of Financial Management (demographic information)
- King County Sheriff's Office:
 - Annual Statistical Reports
 - Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system reports
 - Internal Investigations Unit statistical reports
 - Interlocal Agreements - Exhibit Bs (contract cost and staffing information)
- King County Tax Assessor's Office (real property values)
- Washington State Courts, Courts of Limited Jurisdiction annual caseload reports (traffic citation information); available on the Internet at: www.courts.wa.gov/caseload

Improved Data

One of the functions of a Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report is to highlight data collection and reporting methods that may need modification. Since the first annual report was published in 2000, the research and publishing staff have identified several ways to improve the data presented in these reports. Many improvements were implemented since that time and therefore data may differ somewhat in subsequent reports.